Item 7¹ – Statewide Self-Determination Advisory Committee Update

This handout provides a summary of some of the issues that will be discussed and addressed during the Executive Committee's discussion regarding Agenda Item 7 – Statewide Self-Determination Advisory Committee Update.

Background

In 1998, the California State Legislature expanded the Lanterman Developmental Disabilities Act to include self-determination pilot projects. The pilot programs continued in 2002 and 2003 but were only available at three regional centers. In 2013, the Legislature established a statewide Self-Determination Program that was to be made available in every regional center catchment area to provide participants and their families an option for regional center services that include an individual budget, increased flexibility and choice, greater control over resources, and needed and desired services and supports.

The legislation also required the State Council on Developmental Disabilities (Council) to form a volunteer committee known as the Statewide Self-Determination Advisory Committee (SSDAC).² SSDAC is comprised of the chairs of 21 local advisory committees, and Council Chair Maria Marquez, who currently serves as SSDAC's Chair.

Members of SSDAC sought to establish a Coordinating Committee. The Coordinating Committee would have various responsibilities, including creating SSDAC's agendas, lists of proposed actions, and workplans. In June of 2019, the request to establish a Coordinating Committee was reviewed and denied by the Council's Executive Committee.

The Council has since received requests to reconsider the establishment of a Coordinating Committee for SSDAC. In response, Council Chair Marquez placed this item on the October 2019 Executive Committee Agenda so she can provide the Executive Committee members an update of recent activities of the SSDAC and discuss the request to establish a Coordinating Committee.

¹ This item may be taken out of order.

² Welfare & Institutions Code § 4685.8, subdivision (x)(2).